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## How Healthy Are We?

(All figures for the U.S.)

Diminished  
Health  
Status

### Life Expectancy

- In 2000 life expectancy at birth reached a record high of 76.9 years for the total population; 74.1 years for all males and 79.5 for all females.

**Source: National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 50, No. 15**

- Among the four race-sex groups, white females have the highest life expectancy at birth (79.9 years), followed by black females (74.7 years), white males (74.6 years), and black males (67.8 years).

**Source: United States Life Tables, 1999**

### General Health Status

- The health status of most people was assessed as either excellent (37.1%) or very good (31.0%). A smaller percent were assessed as good (22.8%), and even fewer were assessed as fair (6.9%) or poor (2.2%).

**Source: Early Release of Selected Estimates from the National Health Interview (NHIS)**

### Infant Mortality

- Infant mortality rates declined from 7.1 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 1999 to 6.9 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2000.

**Source: National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 50, No. 15**

### Prenatal Care

- In 2000, 83% of mothers began prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy; this level improved slowly, but consistently during the 1990s.

**Source: Births: Final Data for 2000**

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